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Summer '95

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MEN ON MISSION

North Carolina Baptist Men and Boys reaching the world for Christ

Strengthening Families through Missions Involvement

AUGUST IS FAMILY MISSIONS MONTH

Summer 1995

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MEN ON MISSION

On The Cover

August is Family Missions Month. For more information on how your family can be involved in family missions projects see article on page 7.

N.C. Baptist Men Staff

Richard Brunson, Mark Abernathy, Jimmy Huffman, Lonnie Reynolds, Lynn Tharrington, Lee Sadler, Fatima Roma, Mary Ann Murphy

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

"Every Baptist A Missionary."

RICHARD BRUNSON, NCBM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

"As the Father has sent me, so send I you." John 20:21

I heard Denton Lotz tell the story of Johan Oncken. Oncken lived in the early 1800's and was a salesman from Germany who went to Scotland, heard the gospel, and was converted. He went back to Germany and preached the gospel. He was imprisoned by the German police because at that time in Germany you had to be a Lutheran or a Catholic. You could not be a Baptist. Baptists were considered radicals and imprisoned. The German police brought Oncken before them and asked him to write down the name of every Baptist missionary. Oncken wrote, "Every Baptist a missionary."

I believe that one of the greatest needs of our day is to help lay people understand that they are missionaries.

I believe that one of the greatest needs of our day is to help lay people understand that they are missionaries. What makes someone a missionary? First, a missionary has a mission; and secondly, a missionary has been sent someplace to accomplish that mission.

What is your mission? In II Corinthians 5:18–19, it says that God reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

Where have you been sent? Take a look around. What are the needs where you are? You are right in the midst of a mission field. God has put you where you are for a reason. God intends for you to be "salt and light" in a lost and hurting world!

If we are going to make a difference for Christ in North Carolina and in this world, we must have lay people who are missionaries. Lay people who believe that Jesus is saying to them, "As the Father has sent me, so send I you." People who believe that every Baptist is a missionary.

Richard Brunson

Are We Eagles...Or Parrots?

MAURICE COOK, NCBM PRESIDENT

All of us have many favorite scripture passages that come to mind frequently for reflection and refreshment. One of my favorites is Isaiah 40:31: "But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; they shall walk, and not faint." These words have given me assurance, comfort, encouragement, hope, inspiration, strength, and countless other spiritual enrichments many times along life's pilgrim journey.

I was thinking about Isaiah 40:31 some time ago and wondered about the implications of ". . .mounting up with wings as eagles . . .." At about the same time, I came across some writings of Dr. Charles Swindoll on eagles—and parrots! I am grateful to Dr. Swindoll for his insights, some of which are reflected in this article.

I am not sure of all that our founding fathers had in mind when they selected the eagle as our national symbol. But what a wise choice! Eagles are strong, keen-eyed, wide-winged creatures who like to soar out and up, always exploring the unlimited ranges of sky, land, and water around them. They are willing to return with a brief report of their findings before they leave the nest again for another fascinating adventure.

Eagles are strong, keen-eyed, wide-winged creatures who like to soar out and up, always exploring the unlimited ranges of sky, land, and water around them.

Parrots are much different from eagles. They like to stay in the same cage, pick over the same pan full of seeds, and listen to the same words over and over again until they can say them with ease. They like company, too. Give them lots of attention, a scratch here, a snuggle there, and they will stay for years right on the same perch. You and I cannot remember the last time we saw one fly. Parrots like the predictable, the secure, the strokes they get from their mutual admiration society.

Not eagles. They do not depend on others for their well-being. Instead, they are fiercely independent and like to fend for themselves. They appear to be driven with an inner surge to search and discover. And, unlike parrots, eagles take risks getting their food because they hate anything that comes from a small dish of picked-over seeds. . . boring, dull, repetitious, and dry. They like tough challenges and prepare their young to live in a world of challenge, danger, and fear.

BAPTIST MEN: Are We Eagles Or Parrots?

There are so many opportunities for fresh thought and action—eagle-mindedness. But so many of us seem content to stay on the perch—parrot-like. Although rare, eagles are not extinct in the life of the church. I fear, though, that we are running short of eagles and running over with parrots. Baptist Men, you are greatly needed to soar and explore, not to stay stuck on a perch inside a cage. Dr. Swindoll asks with his keen perception, "Have you ever heard anyone say, 'Eagle want a cracker'?" Thought-provoking for a Christian, isn't it?

MANDATE And N.C. Missions Owner's Manual

The *N.C. Missions Owner's Manual* is designed to inform, inspire and involve. The *Owner's Manual* gives practical ideas on how to have an effective Baptist Men's program in your church. It is filled with stories about N.C. Baptist Men who are involved in a variety of missions projects. The *Owner's Manual* also provides 12 monthly Baptist Men's programs that will work. Each of these 12 programs is built around a special video segment that will be included on the MANDATE video.

MANDATE video magazine, produced by the Communication Services Division of the Baptist State Convention, is a monthly video program. MANDATE is mailed quarterly, and includes three monthly programs on each tape. MANDATE includes stories on state missions as well as foreign and home missions.

The *N.C. Missions Owner's Manual* will provide suggestions for a good Baptist Men's meeting including additional information and discussion questions to precede and follow the showing of the video segment.

The cost to subscribe to MANDATE is $20 per year (this is for all 4 video tapes). One copy of the *Owner's Manual* is included with each subscription to MANDATE. Additional copies of the *Owner's Manual* can be purchased for $4.00 per manual. Subscription information is below. Order a copy for each of the men in your church.

Our goal is not to push programs; our goal is to involve men in missions. This video and *Owner's Manual* is a new and different method, but we believe that it will be an excellent way to inform, inspire and involve the men of your church in doing missions.

MANDATE/OWNER'S MANUAL ORDER FORM

Name_____

Address_____

City/State/Zip_____

Day Phone _____/_____ Church/Association_____

I wish to subscribe to MANDATE for one year.

_____ I have included a check for $20. (Includes one *Owner's Manual*)

_____ Please bill me at the address above.

Please send me _____ additional copies of the *1995-96 Owner's Manual* at $4 each.

_____ I have included my check.

_____ Please bill me at the address above.

Make check payable to: Baptist State Convention. Mail toPublic Relations, Baptist State Convention, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107

NORTH CAROLINA BAPTIST MEN, PO BOX 1107, CARY, NC 27512–1107

Mission Statement

The goal of North Carolina Baptist Men is to help N.C. churches and associations involve their members (especially men and boys) in missions.

The objectives for accomplishing this goal are to:

- *enable and equip men and boys to be personally involved in mission activities*
- *encourage men and boys to identify and develop their personal ministries*
- *educate men and boys concerning mission opportunities*
- *teach men and boys the importance of praying for and giving to missions*
- *lead men and boys in developing in all areas and aspects of their lives to become mature, active and involved Christians.*

WFU 'Church Day' Is November 4

Each year Wake Forest University sets aside a block of football tickets for 'Church Day.' The event is sponsored by North Carolina Baptist Men and the Athletic Department of Wake Forest University. This year, 'Church Day' will feature the Wake Forest/Georgia Tech football game on Saturday, November 4. Baptist Men will have 4,000 tickets available for seating in the stands. These tickets will be on a first-come, first-serve basis. The deadline to receive ticket orders is Wednesday, October 18. The cost is $10.50 per person (includes program, box lunch, and game) plus $3 per order handling fee. Tickets will be mailed mid-October. There will be no refunds.

Doug Flynn

The program begins at 10:00 a.m. with guest speaker, Doug Flynn, former major league baseball player with the Cincinnati Reds. The game starts at 1:00 p.m.

To order tickets, check the appropriate item on the back page.

EQUIPPING TODAY'S CHURCH

An interdepartmental training event featuring all elective conferences and planned especially for leaders in the local church.

Ridgecrest Conference Center/Sept. 15–16
N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell)/Oct. 6–7

Hats, T-shirts Are Now Available

A new shipment of hats, with the embroidered NCBM Serve in Christ's Spirit logo, has just arrived. The colors available are: black, teal, forest green, and burgundy, The cost is $7 each plus $2 shipping per order.

Also available are T-shirts with the NCBM logo at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes are: adult medium, adult large, adult X-large, adult XX-large.

In addition, new RA (grades 1–6) T-shirts and, for the first time, Challengers (grades 7–12) T-shirts are available at a cost of $6 each plus $2 shipping per order. The sizes are: Boys 14–16, Adult Small, Adult Medium, Adult Large, Adult X-Large.

Please use the form on the back page to place your order.

Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference Set

A conference to equip men and women to lead other men, young men and boys in church and associational mission study and projects will be held at the Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro, August 11–12. It begins with registration and dinner at 5:30 p.m. on Friday and concludes on Saturday with lunch.

The Church Brotherhood Leadership conference will feature training sessions for basic and advanced Lad (boys in grades 1–3) and Crusader (boys in grades 4–6) Counselors. Training sessions for leaders in the Challengers program (boys in grades 7–12), and church Baptist Men/Brotherhood directors will also be offered.

Cost is only $35 per person (double occupancy and three meals). Registration deadline is July 16.

For more information or to register, check the appropriate item on the back page.

AGRICULTURAL MISSIONS

Don't Miss Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day!

Everyone is invited to the Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day! It will take place Saturday, July 29 on the Ag Farm located at Campbell University, Buies Creek. Events begin with a 4:00 p.m. tour of the farm and include a meal served from the N.C. Baptist Disaster Relief Unit. Dr. Martin Price, director of ECHO (Educational Concerns for Hunger Organizations), Fort Meyers, Florida will be the guest speaker. North Carolina Baptist Men work with ECHO to grow seed for use in developing countries. Dr. Price will share how seed grown right at the Ag Demonstration Farm is feeding people around the world. Cost is $5 per person for the meal. Deadline for registration is July 24.

This is a good opportunity for GA, RA, Acteen, and Challenger groups. They get to see some farm animals up close, try out some of the third world farming techniques, and learn how they can be a part of agricultural missions. Participants also may view the medical/dental bus.

For Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day information and registration check the appropriate item on the back page.

Don Pittman
State Agriculture Missions Coordinator
4719 River Road
Wilson, NC 27893
(919) 243-7328

MISSIONS ANYONE?

Other opportunities for agricultural missions include sharing your gardening skills with people in Tobago. If you have an interest in participating in a short term ag missions trip, call Don Pittman at (919) 243-7328.

CORRECTIONAL MISSIONS

Opportunities For Ministry Exist In Our Prisons

Last year, in partnership with Prison Fellowship, NCBM co-sponsored Camp Angel Tree at Camp Caraway. Camp Angel Tree is a week of camp for children, ages 9–13, of inmates. It was the first time many of these boys had experienced a camp atmosphere and exposure to Christian teaching. This year, we hope that 120 churches will sponsor boys to Camp Angel Tree. Camp dates are August 7–12 and the cost is $95 per camper. Please help your church consider sponsoring a camper. Let's help stop the cycle of crime by introducing these young men to Jesus Christ.

A second opportunity for ministry comes August 27– September 1 through a Community Service Project (CSP). The CSP, which will be held in Black Mountain, joins inmates with Baptist Men to completely renovate the home of an elderly person. Space is limited to only 25 volunteers, so contact us as soon as possible to express your interest.

These and other exciting opportunities for ministry are available through NCBM Correctional Ministries. Recently, we have been developing a comprehensive ministry plan for involving N.C. Baptists in correctional missions. We target our ministries toward making an impact in overcoming the overwhelming problem of crime. Our vision is to take the gospel into the jails and prisons of our state through worship, Bible studies and seminars. We desire to minister to the needs of inmate families through Project Angel Tree, Camp Angel Tree and support groups. Tremendous potential ministries exist for staff ministry, aftercare, and victims' assistance.

If you would like more information on how you can be involved, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Johnny Henderson
State Correctional Ministry Coordinator
PO Box 499
Seagrove, NC 27341
(910) 873-7995

36 ways Your Family Can Make A Difference Through Mission Projects

Family Missions

Doing missions with those you love is an exciting concept.; and when your family includes children, it provides a model of Christian love and compassion that they will never forget.

Celebrate Family Missions Month

Churches are encouraged to set aside a particular time of the year to emphasize families working together in mission and ministry projects. A suggested month is August of each year, a time when families begin planning for a new church and school year.

N.C. Baptist Men, N.C. WMU, and the State Evangelism Division have recently published a booklet that is filled with ideas of mission projects that can be done by families in your church. Also included in the booklet are suggestions for ways families can pray about needs in their community and decide as a family projects in which to be involved.

Here are examples of some of the suggested family mission projects found in this booklet:

Idea Number 12 — Bus Drivers. Put together some type of care package for the bus drivers of your school. Let them know how much you appreciate the important, but many times thankless, job they do. Also, let them know you will be praying for them as they drive the bus each day.

Idea Number 16 - Adopt-a-Grandparent. Go to an area nursing home and ask the director what resident would be a good one for your family to adopt. Consider choosing a resident who rarely has visitors. Spend time with this person monthly and remember him/her on special days such as birthdays, Christmas, etc. Offer to take him/her to church on a regular basis for special services.

Clip and Return

36 Family Mission Project Ideas Booklet Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Day Phone _____

Church/Association _____

Please send me _____ copies of the Family Mission Project Ideas booklet at a cost of 25¢ per booklet.

❑ I have included my check. ❑ Please bill me at the address above.

Make checks payable to: Baptist State Convention. Mail order form and check to: NC WMU/BM, Baptist State Convention, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107.

Legacy Builders Retreat Set For October 27–28, 1995

Legacy Builders, a men's retreat that teaches the biblical basis of manhood, will conduct a retreat October 27–28 in Asheboro. Participants will learn how to apply the principles of being God's man in three important areas of life: home, church, and marketplace.

The retreat will begin with supper on Friday evening and conclude with lunch on Saturday. The four sessions of the retreat include: Profile of a Godly Man, God's Man in the Home, God's Man in the Church, God's Man in the Marketplace. This conference will be led by Jim Burton, Men's Ministry Director, Brotherhood Commission, Memphis, TN. Cost for the weekend retreat is $35 per person, which covers lodging (cabins at the youth camp), three meals (Friday supper, Saturday breakfast, and Saturday lunch), insurance, program workbooks, and the program. Bring your Bible, a towel, linens or sleeping bag, pillow, and personal toiletries. The dress code is casual.

For more information or registration, check the appropriate item on the back page.

MEDICAL/DENTAL MISSIONS

Medical Assistance To Ukraine Is 1995 Project

The Baptist State Convention of North Carolina, in association with the North Carolina Baptist Medical-Dental Fellowship, has entered into a formal agreement with the Baptist Union of Ukraine to supply medications to the country. This program will utilize the existing organizational structure of the Baptist Union of Ukraine to the 25 regions and local churches. The medications will be distributed both to local members as a ministry of the church and to others as an evangelistic outreach tool.

Facilitating this agreement necessitates the support of all North Carolina churches. We are excited that our churches can participate in this ministry to the people of Ukraine. Currently Ukraine can manufacture no medications in the country. Secondly, they are unable to purchase medications with their own currency.

We have worked out an agreement with the Missionary Assistance Program (MAP) which has 40 years of experience in sending medications to mission hospitals around the world. We will be able to purchase medications at close to a 50 to 1 purchase advantage, that is for every dollar we will be given 50 dollars of wholesale medications. Further, MAP packages these medications and we will be able to get these medicines shipped free from MAP headquarters in Georgia to Kiev, Ukraine.

Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship
of North Carolina

We encourage your churches to immediately begin a fund-raising drive to raise money whether it be $100, $500, or $1,000, or whatever the amount. It will be easier for us to purchase in this manner than to have individuals collect medications from their churches or individuals and send them to the Baptist Building.

Please send all donations to North Carolina Baptist Men, PO Box 1107, Cary, NC 27512–1107 or call (919) 467–5100 or (800) 395–5102.

We are excited for you to be able to participate in this endeavor as we supply assistance to the people of Ukraine.

Sending medical doctors, dentists and nurses to Ukraine over this two-year period is part of this agreement. Following are dates we will send medical teams to the Ukraine for two weeks:

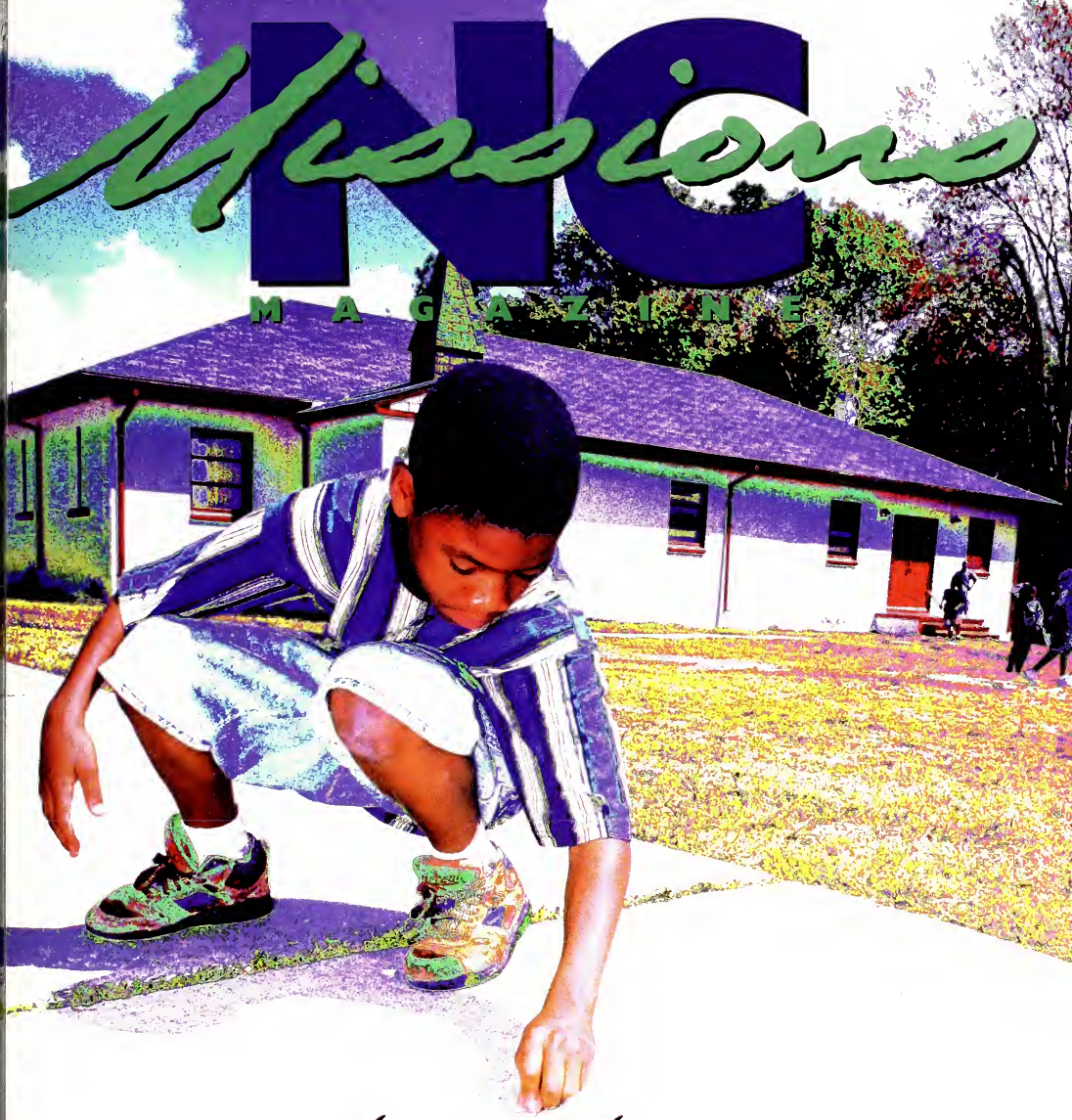
May 6–20, 1995 (Kiev)
June 10–24, 1995 (Sumi)
July 22–Aug. 5, 1995 (Poltava)
Aug. 19–Sept. 2, 1995 (Lvov).

The following are types of medical doctors that Ukrainian physicians have requested to work with them: internists, family practitioners, pediatricians, urologists, and orthopedic surgeons. These physicians will go in teams of three to five and work with Ukrainian counterpart physicians, dentists, and nurses. They will assist with evangelism through the health care delivered.

Should you have interest in joining in this exciting work, check the appropriate item on the back page.

Ron Halbrooks, M.D.
State Medical Missions Coordinator
5419 Highland Drive
Durham, NC 27712
(919) 383-5757

NC Missions Magazine



Sunday School In The Hood

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

New Doors Open For First Native American Leader Of Cherokee Ministry

The Gospel Is Heard Loud And Clear When A Deaf Pastor Takes To The Pulpit In Wilson

NC Missions MAGAZINE

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EDITOR: BILL BOATWRIGHT ART DIRECTOR: JEFF BOWMAN PROJECT COORDINATOR: CYNTHIA KING

NOTE: A promotional packet for the North Carolina Missions Offering will be mailed to each church. Packets include a video, Sunday School lesson, poster, prayer guide/bulletin insert, and this magazine. If your church does not receive a packet by August 15, please contact the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina at 800-395-5102 or 919-467-5100.

NC MISSIONS SPEAKERS AVAILABLE

A speaker is a fresh and compelling way to communicate the story of North Carolina Missions and the benefits of the annual NC Missions Offering. To locate a speaker in your area, contact NC Woman's Missionary Union at 1-800-395-5102. Speakers do not charge a fee. Churches reimburse speakers for expenses only (usually mileage and meals).

A NC Missions speaker can help North Carolina missions come alive for your church or missions organizations. The NC Missions Offering supports some of our state's most essential ministries. Thank you for encouraging your church to support North Carolina Missions!

Every Christian A Missionary

Missions, in the minds of many Baptists, is something that happens *somewhere else*, either in another country ("foreign") or in another part of our country ("home"). The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (foreign missions) and Annie Armstrong Easter Offering (home missions) are major emphases on most churches' calendar.

Missions, in the minds of many Baptists, is also something that involves *someone else*. When most Baptists think of missions, they usually think of missionaries—a special group of people who have been appointed or commissioned by a denominational agency.

Women inmates who come to Camp Mundo Vista see and feel God's love. Retreats for them and their children, part of the ongoing ministries of WMU, are supported by your gifts to the North Carolina Missions Offering.

Missions, in New Testament times, knew no such distinctions between "foreign" and "home." Every first century Christian was a missionary, not just Paul or Barnabas or John or Peter. The biblical mandate to go and preach the gospel belonged to every believer, not just those in "full-time" Christian service.

North Carolina Missions is based on the belief that every Christian is a missionary. North Carolina is a mission field. Your county, your town, your neighborhood all contain a variety of mission challenges. And you, a Christian believer, are potentially a missionary there.

North Carolina Missions, and the annual North Carolina Missions Offering, takes seriously this mandate to help every believer find their place of ministry. Most of the annual offering is allocated to the state convention's Missions Division, Woman's Missionary Union and NC Baptist Men. In fact, virtually 90 percent of WMU's entire mission budget comes from this single offering. Baptist Men also depends entirely on this special offering for their mission budget. The Missions Division funds most of their missions program from this offering.

Language Missions, receives 75 percent of its funding from the NC Missions Offering.

Language Missions is a good example of North Carolina Missions. Twenty-five years ago there were only two or three Spanish-speaking churches in the state. Today, on a typical Sunday, North Carolina Baptists worship in 18 different languages in 111 churches.

North Carolina WMU sponsors special retreats for female prison inmates and their children. This may be the only opportunity this mother has for quality time with her children during her entire prison stay.

Disaster Relief is one of 13 NC Baptist Men ministries that are funded by the NC Missions Offering.

NC Baptist Men supports Disaster Relief and the Medical/Dental Bus. In 1994, more than 1,500 North Carolina Baptists participated in some phase of Disaster Relief. The Medical/Dental Bus, a self-contained and fully operational medical and dental care unit, was in 94 areas across North Carolina last year, involving over a thousand volunteers ministering to well over 2000 people.

The mission field is here. And you, along with a host of other volunteers, are our missionaries.

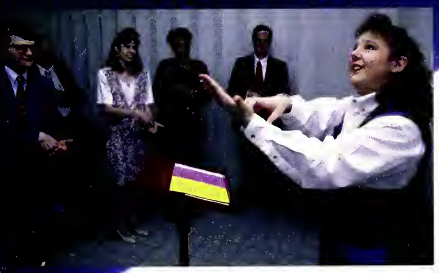
NC Missions Offering

Offering Help And Hope

NC Missions Week Of Emphasis: September 10-17, 1995

Jennifer Eason of Oklahoma City. She recently came to teach at the School for the Deaf in Wilson. She leads the singing for the deaf church.

Center: Stephanie is Johnson's wife and soul mate. "We are partners," she says. She interprets his sermons out loud if there are hearing people in the congregation. They have three children.



Signing Salvation

"How then shall they call upon Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" (Romans 10:14 NAS)

And how shall they understand without a preacher who speaks their language?

Speaking a silent language and living in a culture all their own, the deaf need to hear the gospel preached in sign language.

More than 60 North Carolina Baptist churches — including Forest Hills of Wilson — are providing ministry to those who live in this silent world. Patty Salt, deaf committee chair at Forest Hills, understands some of their frustrations.

"English has too many idioms. Deaf people take things very literally. Interpreting is not their first choice because it is hard to understand," Salt says. So last year, she arranged for a minister to the deaf to preach a revival at Forest Hills. By the

"Deaf people have needs hearing people cannot meet."

second night, attenders were asking for more of the same. They wanted regular Bible studies and worship services of their own.

Salt contacted long time resource for the church, Neal Peyton, director of special ministries of the Baptist State Convention. He helped them locate Daniel Johnson in Louisiana to become the first full-time deaf pastor on staff at Forest Hills. The son of Southern Baptist foreign missionaries, and himself deaf since the age of nine, Johnson's salary is supplemented by the North Carolina Missions Offering.

A deaf pastor brings certain elements and understanding needed by the deaf community. The deaf, in the main, live in a somewhat isolated culture. Deaf ministry, therefore, provides a social outlet and helps break down some of the communication barriers to church participation.

"Deaf people have needs hearing people cannot meet. English is their second language," says Johnson.

Hands are the voice through which deaf people hear. At Forest Hills, the deaf ministry is over 20 years old. As of April, they no longer need interpreters to sign messages. The hands of Llewellen Jones, pictured here, have been used to bring the Word to the deaf community along with the hands of other volunteers.

Daniel Johnson signs "Amen." For many in his church, he is their first full-time deaf pastor. The North Carolina Missions Offering supplements his salary.

The Forest Hills church is strategically located to provide a full-service deaf ministry. Wilson is home to the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf, serving 53 eastern counties. In 1991, the census documented 588 deaf people in Wilson County. The school is a direct target for Johnson's ministry. He hopes a Sunday School can be established there during the week.

Llewellen Jones, a member of Forest Hills and employee at the School for the Deaf, has been interpreting at the church for more than 20 years. She is especially excited about Johnson's plan to reach out to the school.

"They need to have the same opportunity as hearing people to learn about God," says Jones. "At their home churches, there is no one to sign for them. Sometimes it can have an opposite effect when they are forced to go to church. Communication is key to wherever they are. Many of their families don't sign. It is hard for them."

Johnson lived in Wilson as a child while attending the School for the Deaf. He became deaf because of Otitismedia, or inner ear infection. Today there is a simple cure.

Later, he went to Gardner-Webb University, one of a handful of universities across the nation providing special services for the deaf. There, he met his wife, Stephanie, who was working for the university as a deaf interpreter.

The Johnsons are now partners, each interpreting for those around them. She interprets his sermons out loud if there are hearing people in the congregation. They have been married 13 years and have three children. She currently is employed at the Wilson Regional Resource Center for the deaf and hard of hearing, working with deaf-blind people.

Two reasons Johnson feels the deaf need a deaf pastor are identification and cultural needs. "Relationships can't be provided in a hearing world," he says. "It is difficult for them to express themselves. In their own language, they are unique. You meet many deaf people who want to stay deaf. That is their life, that is the way they grew up."

The greatest challenge is the same with hearing people, getting others to know about Christ. A deaf pastor brings the culture, needs, and understanding of the deaf community.

Above: Patty Salt became interested in sign language as a youth and learned to sign while living in Miami. While interpreting for a church there, she felt God calling her to deaf ministry. She is a student at Barton College in Wilson and teaches Sunday School for deaf children at Forest Hills.

Above, Right: Rose became deaf as a 5-year-old. "My father was very upset," she says. He left home and to this day she rarely sees him.

Right: Many hearing members of Forest Hills are interested in learning sign language now that awareness of the deaf has increased with Daniel Johnson becoming the deaf pastor. Here members try to spell out their names in sign alphabet.

Right Page: "I love you, God." Singing in sign language is a beautiful way to worship God.

Because of language limitations, a deaf person may take longer to give their life to Christ. "A common misunderstanding is when you sign 'accept Christ,'" says Johnson. "It should be signed 'ask Jesus into your heart.'"

Rose Hawley has been attending Forest Hills for the past few months. She grew up in Wilson and married a deaf man. Last Christmas, she accepted Christ. "My husband's family was very religious," she says. "I wanted to understand more about God." When she started attending Forest Hills she says it was like "I woke up."

Johnson's hope is that his being deaf will draw more deaf people like Rose to the church and to a new 'awakening' in their faith in Christ.

Story and photos by: Deborah Aronson-Griffin

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Take a sign language class either from your church's ministry leaders or your local community college. If there are deaf youth mainstreamed in your local school system, ask how you can help as a volunteer and encourage your youth to include them in youth activities. Hold a Vacation Bible School for deaf young people. For more information, call Special Ministries at 800-395-5102.

SUNDAY SC

HOOL IN THE HOOD

"For God so loved the world, he gave his lonely forgotten son..."

At Hope Mission, a child struggles to quote John 3:16 to Janie Riffle, volunteer from Wilmington Baptist Association. Her eyes fill with tears and she realizes many inner city children must feel this way.

Hope Mission, ministry to inner city, Wilmington, is just one of the association's 100 active ministries and programs.

As a port city, college town and beach Mecca, Wilmington's diverse culture allows for distinct opportunities to minister. Resort missions, campus ministries and marina ministry reach out to the transient community. Language missions embrace Hispanics, Koreans, Japanese, Indians and Chinese. Building projects and mission trips include those to Ukraine, Honduras, Poland, Brazil, Czech Republic, West Virginia and New York. Ed Bullock, director of missions, says support of overseas missions instigates support at home. "If we can do it in Brazil, we can do it at home."

Many ministries receive North Carolina Missions Offering money directly, such as inner city missions, Baptist Men and the

Brisson gathers children on Sunday morning from Houston Moore public housing. He says many are not looking for a handout. They are looking for a hand. **LEFT:** "Sports Evangelism may be our single most effective ministry in efforts to reach the unchurched for Christ in the inner city," says Brisson. Five basketball teams were sponsored last year. One player went to Ukraine with Brisson to help build an orphanage. Others attended Campbell University Basketball Camp during the summer.

Children love to sing at Hope Mission. Here they sing "Deep and Wide" as Mary Margaret Brooks helps in the background. As director of church and community ministries, Brooks oversees 30 ministries. Many times she will attend early church at First Church, Wilmington, allowing her to attend Hope Chapel as well.

Baptist Student Union. "Mission work is in the volunteers," Bullock says. "If we raise a dollar for mission work, we'll see $3 or $4 out of it by people stepping forward. If the State did not endorse this kind of missions effort, it would be hard to do what we do. " About 600 volunteers are used each year in the association. Two hundred have been sent to Brazil. Mary Margaret Brooks, director of church and community ministries says, "Sometimes I sit back and marvel at how far God is able to stretch a dollar."

Inner city missions, to which the association budgeted $150,000 this year, requires energy and resources says Bullock. Last year five inner city basketball teams were sponsored. David Brisson, inner city minister, says, "This may be the single most effective ministry in efforts to reach the unchurched in the inner city." His salary is supplemented by gifts to the NC Missions Offering

"Evangelism is our number one priority. We feel the tutoring program is good, the basketball program is good and the feeding program is good, but without the establishment of a church, we are only giving them half a loaf."

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

ecome aware of low-income housing near your com-unity and the mission needs that exist. Call your local aptist associational office to find out about volunteer pportunities. Consider sponsoring mission organiza-ons (Mission Friends, RA/GA groups, etc.) in a low-come area. Call the Baptist State Convention (1-800-5-5102) about training workshops offered regularly in hristian social ministry.

Across the street from Hope Mission, Houston Moore public housing is a maze of colorful clothes lines and red brick buildings. Children play in the dusty lots using trash cans and old mattresses for amusement. Each Sunday morning Brisson knocks on doors and gathers children for Sunday School. As he makes his way through the maze, the children yell "Mr. B.!" and adults nod their heads in approval. But no adults have joined the Hope Mission so far. "Every child was unchurched before they came," says Brisson. "It is easier to grow the children in faith than to try changing them as adults." It is his prayer adults will eventually start coming.

Urban posters from the Sunday School Board portraying ethnic Bible characters are posted on the church walls. Lunch, prepared by volunteers, is served at noon. "Sunday School is

"All of the ministries we are doing are designed to love people until they ask why," says Brisson. ABOVE: Dolphin Club volunteers, like Kenan Marcady, tutor the children, boosting self-esteem and instilling an appreciation for education. Children from Garden Lake Estates are tutored at Hope Mission each Tuesday and Thursday.
LEFT: Using materials written by African Americans and distributed through the Baptist Sunday School Board called "Urban Ministries, Incorporated", children attending Hope Chapel realize church is for everyone.
RIGHT: Kevin Chewning is a member of the Baptist Student Union and volunteers at Hope Mission tutoring. The Wilmington Association BSU is one of the most active in the state.

important because it is more than just a social ministry," says Brisson. "Evangelism is our number one priority. We feel the tutoring program is good, the basketball program is good, and the feeding program is good, but without the establishment of a church, we are only giving them half a loaf."

Bradley Creek Elementary and the Wilmington Association are partners in reaching "high risk" inner city children. About 30 children, ages nine to 11 are selected by the school's guidance counselor to be in The Dolphin Club. Model citizens are asked to come and encourage students to stay in school.

"The tutoring builds bridges," says Brooks, "opening doors to help families throughout the year." During Thanksgiving, children were able to give something back. "We collected food at school," says Brooks. "Then at the Salvation Army, we fixed a meal and served it. They had the experience of giving where usually they are on the receiving end." One student had stayed at the Salvation Army the year before.

Janie Riffle, a volunteer and member of Pine Valley Church, is determined children at Hope Mission will not be "lonely and forgotten." When she visited Sunday School at Hope Mission and saw the children had no Bibles, she went back to her church and quickly raised $400 for 50 Bibles.

"We cannot change the world," she says. "But maybe we can change our little corner."

Story and photos by: Deborah Aronson-Griffin

NO RESE

Committed To Cherokee Ministry

Tammy Jackson is the first Cherokee to lead North Carolina Baptists' work with her people. "This summer, toward the beginning, the Lord showed me what my resume was, and my resume was my life. I can say I've been there and this is what Jesus has done for me."

You may come to Cherokee to relax in the mountains with 10 million of your closest friends.

But Tammy Jackson sees that Eastern United States resort destination from a different view - and it won't let her relax.

Jackson, a half-blooded Cherokee, sees the community through the eyes of 11,000 of her friends - and family. She grew up there, surrounded by the physical and spiritual needs of a special people. The needs wouldn't let her relax.

So, for years, Jackson has worked all day as a construction company office manager in Sylva, then hustled home to Cherokee where she coordinates Baptist ministries among her fellow Cherokee Indians.

Exhausted from working, coordinating volunteer church groups from around the country, and caring for her son, Tammy asked God either to release her from her heart's yearning to minister among the Cherokee… or make it possible to minister full-time.

God is keeping her in Kingdom work.

Thanks to missions gifts through the North Carolina Missions Offering, Jackson will not only live, but work among the Cherokee to meet their needs and lead them to saving faith in Jesus Christ.

Cherokee is a rare community. Eleven thousand Cherokee Indians live there, the largest community on the Qualla Boundary. Not a reservation, the Boundary is still held in trust by the US government through the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Tribal government oversees daily affairs.

RVATIONS:

At one time, the Cherokee occupied 135,000 square miles which included parts of eight states. When federal soldiers drove 16,000 of them to Oklahoma reservations at the end of the Trail of Tears, only 1,200 who hid in the mountains remained.

Descendants from the 1,200 form the "eastern" band of Cherokee, who live primarily in Cherokee, NC.

Today, more than 30 churches dot the community in far western North Carolina, most of them Baptist, many the direct result of more than 100 years of Baptist missions effort.

"Tammy Jackson is the first Cherokee we've employed. She's getting into a lot of places that for years we haven't been able to touch."

Kingdom work among Cherokee is Southern Baptists' oldest mission effort. Tammy Jackson is the first Cherokee to lead the work.

She works through and heads Cherokee Ministries Association. She is the only staff member and the NC Missions Offering pays one-half her salary. The other half comes from a source she secured in California.

Tom Lolley, western area missionary for North Carolina Baptists, said he anticipates "a new day with Southern Baptists' oldest missions work," under Jackson's direction.

"She is the first Cherokee we've employed, the first Native American to work among Native Americans," he said. "She's getting into a lot of places that for years we haven't been able to touch."

Lolley is impressed by Jackson's administrative ability, and her "great deal of faith and determination."

"We're very impressed by her spiritual qualities and the depth of her concern for her people. She is a natural for this new direction."

In its brief history, Cherokee Ministries Association has established a high trust reputation. It doesn't just unleash exuberant Christian tourists on the city, but trains volunteers for significant ministry.

It operates through traditional summer ministries like Backyard Bible Clubs and Vacation Bible Schools, but also through sports evangelism, youth rallies and hands-on construction ministries that repair inadequate houses and even build some.

Jackson became full-time in June and says she will develop the ministry in the direction "God wants it to be. There are

open doors to minister in this community that I truly believe God has opened."

Jackson's personal involvement is apparent in the community. She already has established a record of trust and reliability. Her "people" are looking forward to her being more often among them.

On an unusually warm spring day in the mountains, Marion Catolster welcomes Jackson and a visitor into her new home.

On odd weeks, from June 20 through August 13, 1994, church groups ascended the hill to meet Marion and Jim, her "companion, nurse, extra body, legs, arms and voice" and to build them a house.

They had been "on the list" for Cherokee Boys Club to help for five years, but funds and time kept them waiting. Finally, "the Good Lord heard my prayers" Marion said, and Cherokee Ministries Association arranged a house building summer.

Marion hobbles on two knees both needing replacement joints. Each breath is a struggle and she is under the care of six doctors.

"I never did so much crying as I did last summer," Marion said. "Each time a group would leave, I'd cry some more.

"These boys and girls…it's almost like they had been building all their lives. They got up here and we became one big family."

One of the happiest days was when they held a wedding in the new house - for Marion and Jim - who also rededicated their lives to the Lord as a result of the ministry of strangers who came to build them a house through Cherokee Ministries Association.

"We balance ministry with our construction efforts," Jackson said. "We want to know where they stand with Christ

TOP: Cherokee Ministries Association built a house for Marion Catolster. Her response: "The Good Lord heard my prayers." RIGHT: We balance ministry with our construction efforts," Jackson says. Catolster's new home overlooks the remains of her former house, a 10" X 30" block building sided with sheet roofing. "In order for us to do missions elsewhere, we've got to do it here first. This is our testing ground," Jackson believes.

"I would rather have five committed groups here to serve God than 50 who want to be here on retreat or resort. These visitors could be ministering to my niece or my nephew. That's important to me."

or we're not fulfilling our obligation as a ministry."

"Everybody loves Tammy," Marion said. "We look forward to seeing her more often. They helped me a lot when I went through my surgery and problems. Their presence helped me recover that much faster."

"I am Cherokee. These are my people," Jackson said. "The Cherokee people, once you gain their trust, are the most loving, trusting people there are."

Jackson's top goal is to gain the trust of the Cherokee people, and "assure them of a solid ministry they can trust and know."

"I am not in this for self-glorification, nor will be the volunteers who are led of God to come," she said. "They won't be coming to 'save' the Cherokee, but to minister to the Cherokee and to serve Jesus Christ. The Cherokee people won't have to ask 'What happens to us when the volunteers are gone?'"

Jackson is very serious about continuing relationships. She wants to involve the area churches in follow-up so summer gains are not lost to winter winds. Christian Cherokee youth help volunteer groups as guides and "introducers" to local families.

Although she has never written a letter or called a church soliciting volunteers for summer work her phone starts ringing each October with inquiries about mission opportunities in Cherokee. She now asks each church to make a three-year commitment to working in Cherokee, so there are familiar faces coming back, relationships established and nurtured, trust built and cemented.

Churches considering a mission project in Cherokee must be represented in an April training session, after which they have every opportunity to back out.

"I would rather have five committed groups here to serve God than 50 who want to be here on retreat or resort," she said. "I take this very seriously, maybe too seriously sometimes. But these visitors could be ministering to my niece or my nephew. That's important to me."

Story by: Norman Jameson.
Photos by: Norman Jameson, Fran Funderburg and Chip Henderson.

WHAT YOU CAN DO!

Volunteer your skills with The Cherokee Minsitries Association. Opportunities now exist year round for people skilled in construction, to work with senior citizens, or lead Backyard Bible Clubs. To volunteer, call: 704-497-2352.
Learn more about Native Americans.
Pray for the continued discipleship of the Cherokee people. Also, pray for more Cherokees to become involved in missions in North Carolina and beyond.

This marked the third year of ministry in Cherokee for Highland Church, Garner. Volunteers helped with repairs, conducted Backyard Bible Clubs, organized youth rallies, and led church services. Highland volunteer Hugh Clark: "We were excited about the fact that it was a way in which our people could be missionaries, using the talents that they already had."

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and also in: Manteo, Elizabeth City, Greenville, New Bern, Washington, Kinston, Havelock, Jacksonville, Wilmington, Lumberton, Rockingham, Southern Pines, Fayetteville, Wilson,

Durham, Burlington, Reidsville, Greensboro, High Point, Winston-Salem, Mt. Airy, Boone, Hickory, Concord, Monroe, Charlotte, Morganton, Asheville, Hendersonville, Sylva, Cherokee and Murphy, plus other places in North Carolina, and also in Sao Paulo, Brazil; Kiev, Ukraine; and Prague, Czech Republic, and to the ends of the earth." **NC Missions Week Of Emphasis: September 10-17, 1995**

Homeland Projects Announced

Korean First, Raleigh

This is a two-year project scheduled for completion in June. Volunteers will be needed on Saturdays for finish trim, electrical, plumbing, carpet, HVC, and landscaping. Contact David Williams, on-site coordinator, Durham (919) 596–9610; or Bill Poindexter, Region 4 Homeland Projects Coordinator, Pittsboro (919) 542–3819.

Hispanic Mission, Pittsboro

This will be a frame/brick 4700 sq. ft. building with construction beginning in June. Contact Bill Poindexter, on-site and Region 4 coordinator (919) 542–3819.

Tar Heel Lodge, Ridgecrest

Roofing and interior renovation are the primary needs for the Baptist State Convention's Tar Heel Lodge at Ridgecrest. Contact Kenneth Fields, Baptist State Convention (800) 395–5102.

Hope Builders, Shelby

This is a pilot project in partnership with Cleveland County Council on Aging, Kings Mountain association, and N.C. Baptist Men. We need volunteers statewide to meet home repair needs of the elderly in Cleveland County. Church group provides labor and materials. Local churches will host work teams by providing housing and food. Dates for these projects are flexible, but the focus is on late spring and summer. We especially need a group with one or two roofers in it to repair a steep-pitched roof. Contact Mark Abernathy, NCBM, (800) 395–5102 for details. (See related article.)

Sims Church, Sims (near Wilson)

This 2,900 sq. ft. wood frame/brick veneer building is a first unit mission church in a rural community. It is now dried in and in need of electrical, plumbing, printing, and sheetrock. Contact Rev. Pete Stone, (919) 235–3634, for scheduling.

New Beginning Church, Tobaccoville (near Winston-Salem)

This 5,200 sq. ft. wood frame with brick veneer structure will be a first unit multi-purpose building. Construction is set to begin in July. For scheduling, contact J. Dave Turner, pastor, at (910) 924–4649.

Faith Mission, Hollister (Halifax County)

This Cullom association project is new construction; framed. Contact Linwood Richards, on-site coordinator, (919) 586–6879.

"I CARE" SOUTH MIAMI

Volunteers are still needed for the over 1,000 homes without water and electricity as a result of Hurricane Andrew in south Miami, Florida. Some projects involve light work while others are complex construction. "I CARE" has a nice volunteer complex, providing food and lodging for $20 per person for a week. There are numerous opportunities for a personal witness while working.

If you're interested, call "I CARE," (800) 637–5790.

NEW YORK PARTNERSHIP

For a current list of numerous construction needs or other volunteer opportunities, call Linda Hicks at the Baptist Building, (800) 395–5102, or your associational office for a "pairing." There are still many, many needs!

GRAFFITI - MANHATTAN, NEW YORK

This construction project is for the southeast Manhattan inner city ministry. It includes a three-story 40' x 80' building and demolition of the existing building. Contact Baptist Men's office, (800) 395–5102, for details.

Rex Everhart
State Homeland Projects Coordinator
2917 Covered Bridge Road
Clayton, NC 27520
(800) 669-0949

Offering Hope Through "Hope Builders"

There are many churches with skilled men and women who want to do something in the way of missions. These people are seeking to serve. There are also many people in our communities in desperate need of someone's help. A roof needs to be shingled; a floor needs repairing; a porch has fallen down. These people are seeking hope. How do we bring these people together? —"Hope Builders"!

North Carolina Baptist Men is currently working with Kings Mountain association and several Cleveland County social service agencies to develop a pilot project called "Hope Builders." The goal is to pair North Carolina Baptist churches with low-income homeowners in Cleveland County who need help with home renovation or repair. These are people who have "fallen between the cracks." Many of them are the elderly poor. Social service workers lament that, in many of these cases, no government funding of any kind is available to aid these people.

(Continued on pg. 10)

Why Should A Pastor/Church Leader Be Interested In Renewal

What Is Renewal?

"Renewal" is, by definition, "the act of making new." When used in a spiritual sense, renewal refers to the recovery of the New Testament faith and the attempt to embody and express that faith in individual lives and the corporate life of the church. As used among Christians today, renewal is associated with an emphasis of certain New Testament concepts:

(1) the priesthood of all believers,
(2) the ministry of the laity,
(3) the person and work of the Holy Spirit, and
(4) the church as the body of Christ.

Among Southern Baptists the renewal emphasis is Ministry. In summary, renewal can be briefly defined as revival of the church, awakening of the individual, and releasing of the laity into ministry.

Characteristics of Renewal:

1. Renewal emphasizes an experience rather than a program.

It is a "happening," but it does not happen automatically. There is no program which can guarantee that a church will experience renewal; in fact, if renewal does occur, it is the work of the Holy Spirit. The church's main responsibility is to provide the setting and the spiritual climate in which renewal can take place, starting with the utilization of present organizational structures.

2. Renewal is a journey.

It is not a one-time experience or weekend event. Renewal may begin with a weekend event, but, by definition, it is a continuous process, a "Journey into Life-style Evangelism and Ministry" for the individual Christian and for the church. It is a church-centered process of renewal events, small group activities, and discipleship programs directed toward helping churches develop their own strategies of lifestyle evangelism and ministry. The Journey (according to The Itinerary for the Journey Into Lifestyle Evangelism and Ministry) includes five phases: investigating, initiating, sharing, commissioning, and penetrating.

3. Renewal has theological dimensions.

It is a recovery of the ministry of the laity, based on the doctrine of the priesthood of all believers. If every Christian is a priest, every Christian is also a minister. One of the main tasks of the church, therefore, is the equipping of each Christian for ministry. Renewal also affirms the biblical truth that every believer is gifted by God for service and for the building up of the body of Christ. (Romans 12:3–8, 1 Cor. 12:1–11, Eph. 4:11–12)

4. Renewal emphasizes the church is the body of Christ.

It has many parts, yet is one unit. Every member of the body is of equal importance; each part has its function to fulfill for the wholeness of the total body. The church expresses its body life in two main aspects: the gathered church and the scattered church. The church gathers as a corporate body to worship, praise, study, equip, confess, affirm, pray, celebrate, commission, and share life together. The church scatters into the world to fulfill its ministry wherever its members are sent. (I Cor. 12:12-31)

5. Renewal is relational.

It recognizes the importance of deep personal relationships, both with God and each other. As Bruce Larson says, "The Kingdom of God is the kingdom of right relationships: with God, self, significant others, and the world." Renewal emphasizes building and maintaining loving relationships through affirmation, encouragement, openness, forgiveness, vulnerability, authenticity, and trust. (Col. 3:11, Eph. 2:19)

For more information, or to schedule a Lay Renewal Weekend in your church, please check the appropriate box on the back page, or call Cameron Norris.

Cameron Norris
State Lay Renewal Coordinator
3471 Bassett St., SW
Shallotte, NC 28459
(910) 754-4839

"Hope Builders" *(Continued from pg. 9)*

Most projects will take around a week to complete. The target date for these projects is sometime during the summer of 1995. Churches can work out a date which best fits their schedule.

Five homes will be selected for this pilot project. If your church is interested in taking on a Hope Builders project, please contact Mark Abernathy at NCBM, (800) 395-5102. Together, we can offer hope in the name of Jesus!

For more information, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

LAY REVIVALS

Lay Witnessing Foundation To Meet August 18–19

The annual meeting of the Baptist Lay Witnessing Foundation takes place the weekend of August 18–19 at Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro, beginning with registration at 4:30 p.m. and concluding with lunch the following day. Randy Kilby, president of Fruitland Baptist Bible Institute, Hendersonville, NC, is the key speaker. Cost is $33 per person based on double occupancy.

Any man, woman, or youth interested in witnessing, discipleship training, improving prayer life, or other areas of spiritual development is encouraged to attend the meeting.

For more information about this conference, or to schedule a Lay Revival in your church, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Mike Smith
State Lay Revival Coordinator
22 Ballantree Drive
Asheville, NC 28803
(704) 274-4261

OVERSEAS MISSIONS

Ukraine Partnership Continues To Grow

North Carolina Baptists and Ukraine Baptists are involved in a three-year mission partnership. Ukraine Baptists need help and appreciate North Carolina Baptists' response to their requests. In Ukraine, the partnership helps to support 100 home missionaries, renovate a building to be used as a seminary, provide financial assistance, and supply personnel for the construction of a number of churches.

If you would like to be a part of the Ukraine partnership, 1995 open dates are:

July 22–August 5
August 17–September 2
September 7–23
September 14–30
October 7–21
October 14–28
October 21–November 4
October 28–November 11

The cost of the trip is approximately $1,500, which includes supplemental insurance, visa, meals, lodging, and air travel from Charlotte, Greensboro, or Raleigh. Also included is an overnight stay on the return trip. All teams will leave from one of three locations (Greensboro, Charlotte, Raleigh/Durham) to insure that all team members travel together from the U.S. to Ukraine. Work teams leave on Saturday and return on Saturday.To participate, you must complete a volunteer-in-missions application form and return it to the Partnership Office, Baptist State Convention of N.C. at least 60 days prior to your anticipated departure date.Come prepared physically, mentally, and spiritually, and you will experience great blessings from the Lord as you work alongside your Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ.

For more information, call the Partnership Office, (800) 395-5102 or (919) 467-5100, or check the appropriate item on the back page.

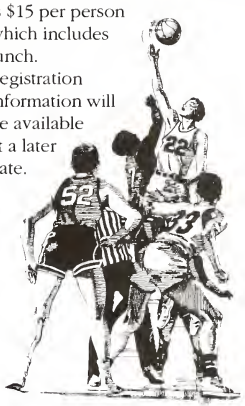
Bob Mizelle
State Overseas Missions Coordinator
1626 US 13 North
Windsor, NC 27983
(919) 794-3759

SPORTS IN MISSIONS

Sports Expo Coming To Raleigh

NCBM Sports in Missions Ministry is sponsoring a Sports Expo on Saturday, September 23, at Meredith College in Raleigh. This event will be for any man or young man in grades 7–12. This event consists of motivational speakers, clinics, and instruction.

The Expo provides information on various ways to use sports to do missions. In addition, it also offers instruction for youth in different sports and coaching clinics to help adults understand how, as coaches, they can also be ministers. The cost is $15 per person which includes lunch. Registration information will be available at a later date.



Continued on p. 12

Summer '95 Sports-In-Missions Highlights Shared:

Challenger International Basketball Team Selected

We selected an outstanding group of Christian young men to lead this summer's trip to St. Vincent, West Indies, June 30-July 10. We will use basketball to help plant seeds for the gospel, be role models, and share our faith. The team hails from Edenton to Hendersonville, from Boone to High Point. It's made up of 10 young men who have a talent and a testimony to share as we give clinics, play games, and work on projects.

Basketball Camp—Wilmington, NC

In June, Johnny Childers brought his coaching and Christian talents to lead this special outreach day camp in the inner city of Wilmington. This was our first in-state Sports-in-Missions project.

Orlando Sports Camp

Jimmy Huffman, Bob Grant, and Challengers from across the state will lead middle school youth through a special week of inspiration and perspiration in July. The group will help the Orlando, Florida association to reach out to the Disney World employees' children with instruction and participation in such sports as basketball, softball, volleyball, and soccer.

Gary Bowne
State Sports-in-Missions coordinator
237 32nd Avenue, NW
Hickory, NC 28601
(704) 327-6282

RESORT/LEISURE MISSIONS

Resort Ministries Council Is Resource

In December of 1994 a meeting was held for all those in the N.C. Baptist family who were doing resort type ministries. Out of that meeting a Resort Ministries Council was formed. NC Baptist Men have a seat on that council. It is comprised of people with varying degrees of expertise, doing all types of resort ministry across North Carolina. Those with skills in a particular ministry area agreed to take the lead in their area of expertise. For NCBM, our area of leadership falls in Rest/Safety Stops. If anyone on the council is contacted about how to conduct a "rest stop," that council member directs the inquiry to Baptist Men. When contacted about other areas of ministry, council members can direct the inquiry to the person of expertise on the council. NCBM encourages Baptist Men to be involved in all types of resort ministry and seek ways to involve their churches in resort ministry. Through the council, we have created a much broader base of expertise and greatly increased our opportunities and resources. If interested in resort ministries, contact Jimmy Huffman at the Baptist Men's office, (800) 395-5102.

Wes Lytton
State Resort and Leisure Ministry Coordinator
P.O. Box 5356
Statesville, NC 28677
(704) 872-5746

Sharing Christ Through Leisure Ministry

By Billy Hutchison, director, Resort & Leisure Ministry, Baptist State Convention, and chair, Resort Ministry Council, 395 Washington Post Road, New Bern, NC 28562, (919) 638-1394

Leisure Ministry is one of the fastest growing areas in which Christians all over North Carolina are spending their leisure time. It is an area where you can engage in activities you love and minister to others at the same time. There are creative opportunities to minister if you play golf, ride a horse, own a boat, like to swim, jog, play volleyball, softball, or go to sporting events. Whether your favorite past time is to show old cars, race motorcycles or cars, or just go fishing, the object of Leisure Ministry is to equip you to do something you love to do, and minister at the same time.

There are many ministries already in place and ready for you to learn; however, if you have a favorite way in which you spend your free time, let us know what it is. We may be able to help you find hundreds of ways to share Christ and minister to others. When you go on vacation, there are many resort areas that need your help and talents. There are also flea markets, fairs, parades, and festivals in your areas. Take a few moments and think of how you spend your leisure time and how you can help the cause of Christ. A few of the possibilities are the North Carolina Christian Golf Ministry, the North Carolina Equestrian Ministry, and North Carolina Waterfolk.

Many opportunities are all around. Send me your ideas and dreams so that we might help you *MINISTER FOR CHRIST AT YOUR LEISURE.*

PRAYER SUPPORT

Are You Tuned In To The Power Of Prayer?

"...pray for one another that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." James 5:16

Is this not a message in itself? Does it not tell us why it is important to pray, and why prayer should be a part of our daily lives? The purpose of the prayer support ministry is to undergird missions through prayer, promote an awareness of its importance and need, and encourage prayer groups among all our men and boys in every church in North Carolina.

A prayer retreat for all Baptist Men and their wives is scheduled for November 17–18, 1995, at the N.C. Baptist Assembly (Caswell) on the coast. The weekend retreat features prayer, spiritually enriching worship services, special music, testimonies, and prayer seminars. The theme this year is "Prayer makes a difference in the home and marriage, in the church, and in missions." The retreat begins Friday evening at 8:00 p.m. (registration from 6:00 to 7:30) and ends on Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Cost for Friday night lodging and three meals on Saturday is $45 per person (includes program fee). Cost for commuters is $20 (includes program fee and Saturday meals). Deadline for registration is October 4. For more information or to register, check the appropriate item on the back page.

We are thankful that a good prayer network exists today through the support of the regional leaders. All but two of the NCBM regions have prayer support leaders. We need for God to send us the names of regional leaders for Region 1 and Region 6.

The most recent leader to join the ministry is Dallas Locklear from Banner Elk, NC in Region 7. We praise God for Dallas and his commitment to prayer and helping us in Region 7. Dallas and his wife, Phyllis, live in Sugar Mountain and are very active in Mount Calvary Church in Banner Elk.

ROYAL AMBASSADORS/CHALLENGERS

Camp Angel Tree Needs Additional Sponsors

Last year dozens of boys came to Camp Caraway for the first time. Among them were the 53 boys who participated in Camp Angel Tree, held the last week of camp. These were boys who have a parent in prison. Many had grown up without any kind of positive male role model in their lives. Some had heard very little about the love of Jesus. But by the end of the week, all of them had experienced the love of God in some way, be it through the care and attention of his counselor, the words of the camp pastor, or the friendships of his fellow campers. By Friday, over half of the 53 boys stood during the commitment service to make a decision for Christ.

This summer, North Carolina Baptist Men, in partnership with Prison Fellowship, will again sponsor Camp Angel Tree. Individuals, churches, RA groups, and others will again have the opportunity to sponsor a boy for a week of camp. Cost for each boy to attend is $95. Our goal for this year is to meet our capacity of 100 boys. Pray about this opportunity to give one of these boys a chance to experience God's love in a way he may never have before. If you would like more information, or would like to sponsor a boy, please contact NC Baptist Men or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Clayton Honored With 'Distingushed RA Leadership Award'

Clarence T. Clayton of Coates church was recently honored at the N.C. Baptist Men's Convention on February 4 with the Distinguished Royal Ambassador Leadership Award. Each year the State Royal Ambassador Committee selects and recognizes one individual for his or her long-term, meritorious service to Royal Ambassador work in N.C. C.T. Clayton has served as RA counselor and director at Coates church for 24 years. He took the church from no chapters when he began, to six active chapters currently. Clayton served on the State RA Committee and has been active in helping conduct state RA congresses, RA track meets, and RA racers. He has led numerous boys on various mission trips and been instrumental in starting chapters in other churches. N.C. Baptist Men and the State RA Committee is honored to present C.T. Clayton with this award. Keep up the good work!

If you would like to nominate someone for this important award, you may obtain a nomination form by contacting N.C. Baptist Men at (800) 395–5102. All nominations must be received by November 1.

EZRA Catches On

Churches all over the state are catching on to EZRA. EZRA (E-Z Royal Ambassadors) is the new method for conducting RA chapter meetings in your church. RA counselors are finding EZRA an effective way to reach out to and keep the interest of boys. Three reasons why EZRA has caught on: *1) EZRA is a simpler program.* The three-part lesson plan, consisting of Mission Games and Activities, self-study missions advancement, and missions focus, is easier to plan and carry out. *2) EZRA involves shared leadership.* Ideally, one person plans and carries out one of the three parts. So instead of being responsible for the whole program, that person is responsible for his or her part only. This also helps in recruiting adult leaders to work with the program. *3) EZRA allows for adaptable administration.* Whether a church has many boys or few, several leaders or one, the EZRA method may be effectively adapted to the situation.

Several new products aid the EZRA leader in conducting an effective program. The EZRA motivational system instantly rewards children who are discovering the joys of studying missions with fun and colorful awards. The Mission Squares Game Pack utilizes four colorful bean bags and an idea/instruction booklet, giving leaders a simple, inexpensive way to plan active missions learning. Bible Memory Medals encourage children to memorize the scriptures over a one-year period.

Along with these new innovations, EZRA still utilizes what has been successful in RAs for years, such as Lad and Crusader magazine, age-graded mission advancement books, mission projects, and interest activities.

The children of our churches are the Christian leaders of the future. We need to teach them to be Christ-minded servants who lead a missions lifestyle. Never has teaching and involving boys in missions been easier. So what are you waiting on? If you would like more information about the EZRA method, or on starting a Royal Ambassador program in your church, please contact N.C. Baptist Men at (800) 395–5102 or check the appropriate item on the back page.

Camp Caraway Registration Begins

Reservations are still being accepted for Camp Caraway, the State Royal Ambassador camp in Asheboro. Sponsored by North Carolina Baptist Men, Camp Caraway is entering its 33rd consecutive year of offering boys from across the state a spiritually challenging, fun-filled week of summer camp. Boys need not be an active member of Royal Ambassadors to attend. The well-rounded program includes such activities as archery, canoeing, swimming, hiking, camping, ropes course, basketball, volleyball, Bible study, missions study, and more. Each boy is placed in a cabin with other boys his age under the care of a well-qualified, well-trained Christian young man who serves as his counselor for the week.

Each camp session begins on Monday at 1:00 p.m. and concludes on Saturday at 9:00 a.m. (This schedule now coincides with the camp schedule of Camp Mundo Vista for those churches who may wish to bring both boys and girls to the two respective camps in the same trip.) Cost of the camp is $90 per person. Camp dates for Caraway this year are as follows:

Week 1 — June 19–24
Week 2 — June 26–July 1
Week 3 — July 3–8
(Father/Son Mini-Camps)
Week 4 — July 10–15
Week 5 — July 17–22
Week 6 — July 24– 29
Week 7 — July 31– August 5

Camp is a great place for a boy to grow spiritually and have a ball doing it. If your son or RA members have never attended a week at Camp Caraway, why not make this their first — they'll be glad you did! For more information, check the appropriate item on the back page.

A Time For Building Father/Son Relationships Offered

Most family experts agree that a major factor in the decline of the American family is a lack of quality time spent together. Increasingly, family members are struggling to find time for one another. The bond between a father and son is an especially important one. Each year, N.C. Baptist Men provides an opportunity for such bonding at Camp Caraway. Two Father/Son Mini Camps will be conducted during the week of July 4th. The first mini-camp will be July 3–5, with the second camp running July 6–8.

During this time, boys in grades 1–3 and their fathers can enjoy a fun-filled time of swimming, basketball, archery, canoeing, Bible study, and much more. Boys must be in grades 1–3 to attend. Boys may attend camp with a father, grandfather, uncle, or any other adult male over the age of 21. There must be one adult per every three boys who attend. Cost of the mini-camp is $42 per person and includes meals, lodging, program, and camp T-shirt. Space for these camp sessions is limited, so plan now to sign up for an exciting, meaningful experience.

For more information, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee

For the second year, boys in grades 1–6, along with one adult sponsor per three boys, are encouraged to attend the Lad/Crusader Camporee at the Camp Caraway Family Campground on September 22–23. Groups will check in and set up camp between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Friday night. Friday night's events will be highlighted by a bonfire program. Saturday, boys will participate in Campcraft instruction and fun Campcraft field day events.

Cost is only $3 per person and includes campground and program fee. Each group must bring their own food and camping equipment. Registration for this event is limited and must be in by September 15.

For more information or registration, please check the appropriate item on the back page.

Reminder

Royal Ambassador and Challengers Leaders: Please submit your Honor Chapter/Unit applications.

RA and Challenger Leader Training In October

Each year hundreds of new RA and Challenger leaders take on the task of leading the boys and young men of their church in missions education and involvement. Unfortunately, many of these leaders become frustrated and drop out before the year is out. Others, however, seem to thrive, leading their boys in interesting and worthwhile meetings. What's the difference? — Training. It doesn't take much to learn what resources are out there and how to use them effectively.

October 13–14 are the dates for a special training session for Lad/Crusader Counselors and Challenger Leaders at Camp Caraway in Asheboro. The Lad/Crusader training will focus mainly on those who are new RA counselors. All the basics of the program will be covered in detail, including advancement, effective chapter meetings, mission projects, and interest activities. The EZRA (Easy Royal Ambassadors) method, a new and simplified approach to providing an RA program for your church, will also be a focus. Participants will gain a knowledge of the program and how to lead it effectively.

Challengers is the new missions program for boys in grades 7–12, replacing what used to be Pioneers/High School Baptist Young Men. It too, like EZRA, is a simpler, more streamlined approach to providing the young men of your church with interesting, personal, and effective missions education.

Both training sessions will be held at the boys camp. Both begin with supper on Friday and conclude with lunch on Saturday. Cost for this training is $25 per person.

For more information or registration, check the appropriate item on the back page.

CHECK HERE FOR MORE INFORMATION & REGISTRATION

Summer 1995, For additional information and registration, check the appropriate block and mail this back page (with the label) to: North Carolina Baptist Men, P.O. Box 1107, Cary, N.C. 27512-1107

TO RECEIVE MORE INFORMATION

NCBM Hats @ $7 (p. 5)

- ❑ Black *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Teal *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Forest Green *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Burgundy *Quantity*____ = Total $____

+ Shipping/handling *$ 2.00*
Grand Total $____

NCBM T-shirts @ $6 (p. 5)

- ❑ Adult large *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult X-large *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult XX-large *Quantity*____ = Total $____

+ Shipping/handling *$ 2.00*
Grand Total $____

RA T-shirts @ $6 (p. 5)

- ❑ Boys 14-16 *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult small *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult medium *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult large *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult X-large *Quantity*____ = Total $____

+ Shipping/handling *$ 2.00*
Grand Total $____

Challengers T-shirts @ $6 (p. 5)

- ❑ Adult large *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult X-large *Quantity*____ = Total $____
- ❑ Adult XX-large *Quantity*____ = Total $____

+ Shipping/handling *$ 2.00*
Grand Total $____

❑ WFU 'Church Day' Is Nov. 4 (p. 5)
#____ tickets @ $10.50 = Total *$____*
+ shipping/handling *$3.00*
Grand Total $____

- ❑ Equipping Today's Church Conference (p. 5)
- ❑ Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference (p. 5)
- ❑ Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day (p. 6)
- ❑ Correctional Missions Opportunities (p. 6)
- ❑ Legacy Builders Retreat Set (p. 8)
- ❑ Medical Assistance To Ukraine (p.8)
- ❑ Why Should A Pastor/Church Leader Be Interested in Renewal? (p. 10)
- ❑ Lay Witnessing Foundation To Meet (p. 11)
- ❑ Ukraine Partnership Continues to Grow (p. 11)
- ❑ Camp Angel Tree Needs Sponsors (p. 13)
- ❑ Camp Caraway Registration Begins (p. 14)
- ❑ EZRA Catches On (p. 14)
- ❑ A Time For Building Father/Son Relationships Offered (p. 15)
- ❑ RA & Challenger Leader Training in October (p. 15)
- ❑ Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee (p. 15)

TO REGISTER FOR CONFERENCES

- ❑ Church Brotherhood Leadership Conference, Caraway Conference Center, Asheboro, August 11–12 (Cost: $35/person, — double occupancy and three meals.) *(Registration deadline is July 16.)*
  #____ persons @ $35 = Total $____
- ❑ Ag Demonstration Farm Field Day, July 29, (Cost: $5/person for meal.) *(Registration deadline July 24)*
  #____ persons @ $5 =Total $____
- ❑ RA & Challenger Leader Training, Oct. 13–14, Asheboro, (Cost: $25/person)
  #____ persons @ $25 = Total $____
- ❑ Legacy Builders Retreat, Oct. 27–28, Asheboro, (Cost: $35/person, includes lodging, three meals, insurance, workbooks, and program .)
  #____ persons @ $35 = Total $____
- ❑ Statewide Lad/Crusader Camporee, Sept. 22–23, Camp Caraway. (Cost $3/person includes campground and program fee.) *Registration limited and must be in by Sept. 15.*
  #____ persons @ $3 = Total $____

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone: Office_____ Home_____

Church_____ Association_____

Leadership Position_____

Registration Fee (if applicable) $_____ Number in group (if applicable)_____

(Make checks payable to North Carolina Baptist Men.)

Are you getting 'too many' copies of this newsletter? If you are getting multiple copies of this newsletter, please return this back page (with label), from each newsletter you received. Thanks!

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